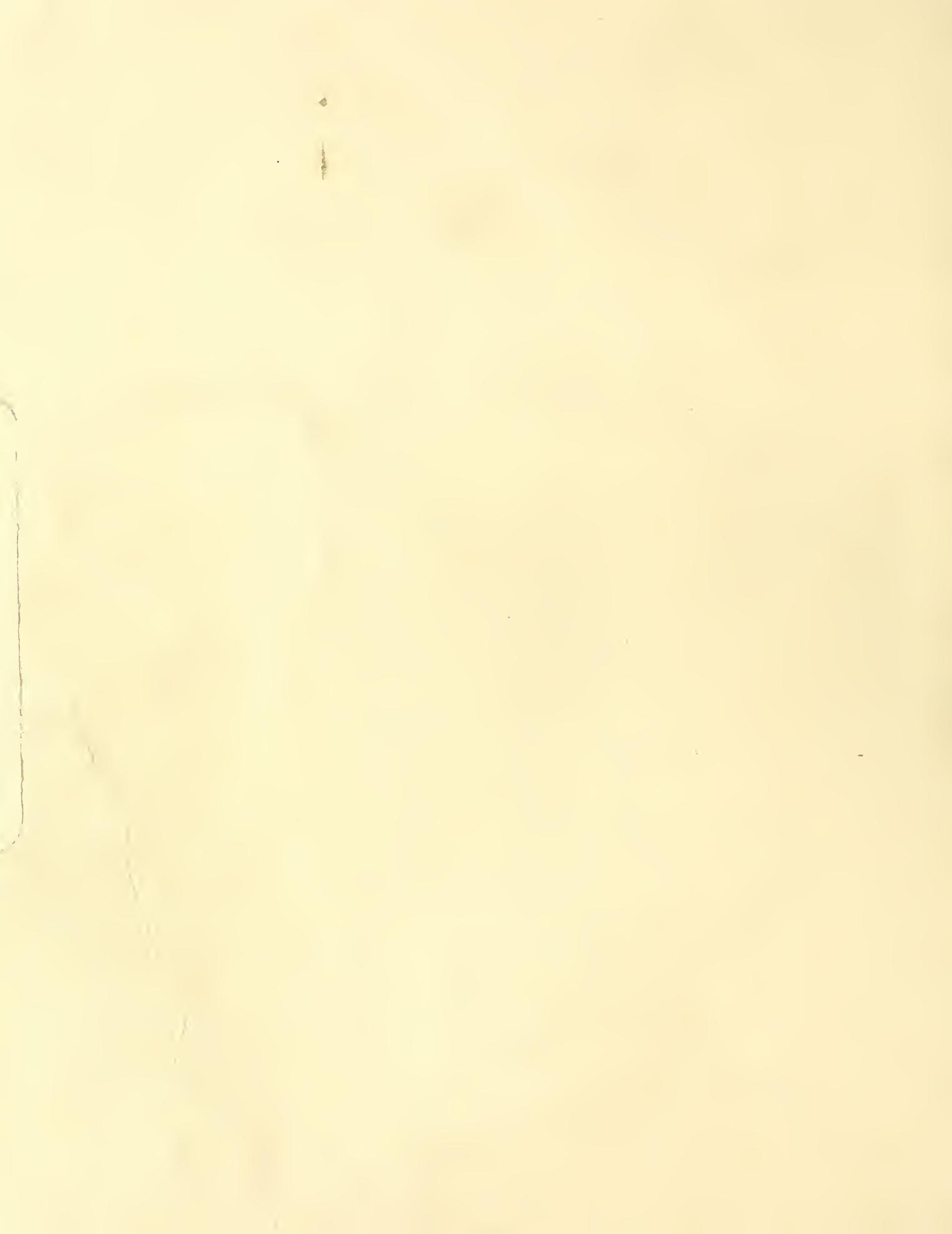


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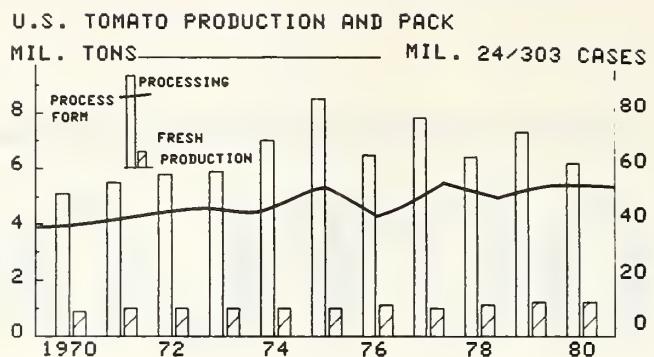
April 1981

# Vegetable

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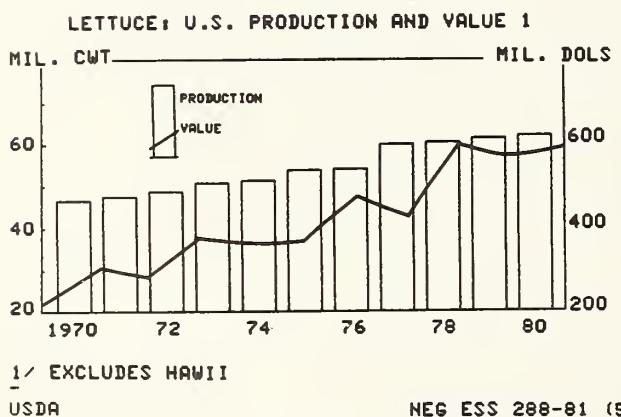
# OUTLOOK & SITUATION

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USDA

NEG ESS 287-81 (5)



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NEG ESS 288-81 (5)

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## Summary

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### Second Quarter Vegetable Prices Will Remain Above A Year Ago

Smaller production caused by reduced acreage and the lingering effects of Florida's January freeze will keep prices for fresh market vegetables higher than a year ago during the second quarter of 1981. During the first quarter, the ESS index of prices received by farmers for fresh market vegetables averaged 318 (1967=100), up more than 60 percent from a year ago. Smaller packs from the 1980 crops and tighter canned and frozen vegetable supplies, forced up processed prices this winter. Prices will remain above last year at least until processors indicate the size of this summer's packs.

The acreage of 14 fresh market vegetables will likely be 1 percent smaller than a year ago. Acreages will expand for cauliflower, sweet corn, escarole/endive, lettuce, and tomatoes, but will decrease for snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, green peppers, and spinach. If yields are equal to the past 3 years' average, production will drop 3 percent from 1980.

Despite higher prices and short supplies of some canned vegetables, canners contracted for 6 percent

fewer acres of lima beans, snap beans, beets, sweet corn, green peas, and spinach in 1981. However, contracted tonnage of tomatoes is 8 percent larger. Furthermore, freezers' contracted acreage for green lima beans, snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and winter spinach increased about 4 percent in 1980.

In March, the ESS index of prices for 10 canned vegetables was 219.0 (1967=100), nearly a fifth higher than a year earlier. Prices are expected to remain above a year ago throughout the summer and perhaps beyond, depending upon the size of this summer's packs.

Reduced supplies and higher prices also slowed disappearance of most frozen vegetables. Prices will stay up through at least the second quarter. Expected increases in a few of the major frozen vegetables packs may lower prices during the summer.

A smaller fall crop in 1980 and strong demand for potatoes this winter caused April 1 potato stocks to drop sharply from a year ago. Potato stocks in 15 major producing States totaled 68.3 million cwt, down 26 percent from 1980 and 31 percent below 1979. Because of smaller supplies and higher prices, disappearance of fresh potatoes was 4 percent less than a year ago. As expected, processor use of raw product in the 7 leading processing

States is also 5 percent lower than in 1980. In response to low supplies and high prices, growers plan to produce about 21.1 million cwt of spring crop potatoes, up 23 percent from last year's record low.

Marketing of last year's small sweetpotato crop is winding down and will be completed in May. Fresh market use of this year's crop was down 18 percent from a year ago, but grower prices in March were nearly double 1980.

Grower prices for fresh market mushrooms at Kennett Square, Pa., so far averaged moderately above last year. Prices for processing mushrooms, however, were a third higher than last year, when the industry felt the brunt of large imports of canned mushrooms. Because of higher tariffs that began November 1, canned-mushroom imports during January-February were 42 smaller, percent down sharply from a year ago.

Producers of dry edible beans expect to plant 2 million acres this year, 6 percent more than a year ago and 41 percent more than 1979. High grower prices resulting from strong export sales caused the increases. Mexico made sizeable bean purchases in the last two years and has contracted for 8.5 million cwt. out of the 1981 crop. This prospective purchase equals 33 percent of 1980's total U.S. production and 41 percent of the production in 1979.

At least partially because of the beneficial effects of the fallout from Mt. St. Helens, dry pea production in Washington and Idaho was 61 percent larger than a year ago, and lentil production was a record-large 2.14 million cwt.

## Vegetable Situation

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

#### FRESH VEGETABLES

The acreage planted to 14 fresh market vegetables in major producing States since January 1 is estimated at 238,510 acres (96,520 hectares), 1 percent less than in 1980. If relationships between planted and harvested acreage and yields are the same as 1978-80, the area for harvest will be approximately 223,000 acres and the output will total about 38,757 million cwt, down 3 percent from 1980. Among the major crops, there are larger planted acreages of cauliflower, sweet corn, escarole/endives, lettuce, and tomatoes. Acreage declines are predicted for snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, green peppers, and spinach. The early onion crop in Texas is down 13 percent from last year and the March forecast. Melon acreage planted since January is estimated to be 13 percent larger than the acreage planted a year ago.

During the last week in March there were near-normal temperatures in California, except in the south, which averaged 2 degrees to 3 degrees above normal. The north coast received ample precipitation, but the south was dry. The Sacramento Valley received good moisture—about 1.5 inches—and the San Joaquin Valley received about .75 inches. Snow moisture is still about half of last year. Vegetables are doing well in all areas with activity in the Imperial Valley decreasing in late March, and production increasing in Coachella and other areas.

Cool northerly winds, gusting in excess of 25 miles per hour, blew across Florida in late March, temperatures were greatly below normal. Warmer air and above normal temperatures returned on March 27, and weather remained favorable through the remainder of the month. Mild days and cool nights prevailed in Florida's vegetable areas. Rainfall was light and scattered.

Shipments of vegetables during the last week of March were down 2 percent from the previous week. Increasing supplies of snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, potatoes, and squash were available. Sup-

plies of celery, escarole, parsley, and tomatoes also increased but the cabbage, lettuce, and cauliflower crops were winding down. The watermelon crop was making good progress.

During the first quarter of 1981, the January freeze in Florida drastically curtailed supplies of winter vegetables and caused sharp price increases for some items. Moreover, cold rainy weather in Mexico reduced the area's supplies of winter vegetables, further augmenting the freeze's effects. Cool weather in Florida kept prices for tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers high through March and the first half of April. By mid-April, prices began to ease. Because of good weather in California and large supplies, lettuce prices remained below a year earlier throughout the first 4 months of 1981.

Lettuce prices increased slightly during the first week of April, when supplies declined as production moved from western Arizona and southern California to the more northern areas in California. However, at \$4.50 per carton, prices were still below a year ago.

Because of the short supplies of nearly all fresh market vegetables, grower prices were sharply above 1980. As increased supplies are marketed in May and June, prices are expected to drop but will remain above last year's levels throughout the second quarter. The index of farm prices received for commercial vegetables for the fresh market during first-quarter 1981 averaged 318 (1967=100), compared with 192 in 1980 and 272 in 1979, when cold weather and labor disputes disrupted market supplies and pushed prices to record levels. For the second quarter, the index of farm prices is likely to average around 225, compared with 192 a year ago.

The ESS index of retail prices for fresh vegetables in the first quarter 1981 stood at 300 (1967=100), compared with 216 last year. For the spring quarter, because of larger supplies, the index of retail prices paid by urban consumers is expected to average slightly lower.

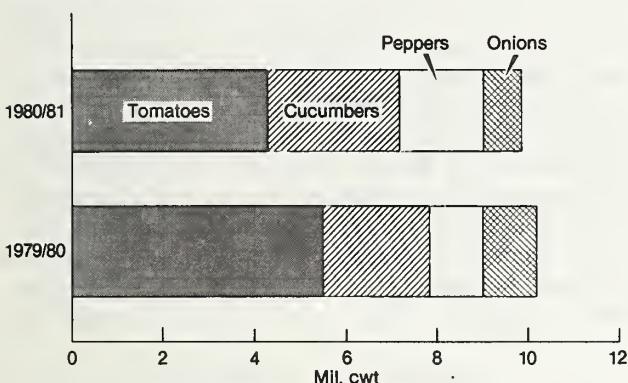
**Table 1—Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and projected production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1980 and indicated 1981**

Seasonal group and crop	Planted Acres			Indicated Production <sup>1</sup>		
	1980 major States	1981		Major States		Percent of 1980 <sup>4</sup>
		Indicated major states	Percent of 1980	1980	1981	
		1,000 acres			1,000 cwt.	
January 1	206,700	197,650	96			
April 1						
Snap beans	27.7	25.8	93	.8	.7	94
Broccoli <sup>2</sup>	20.1	19.9	99	2.0	1.9	93
Cabbage	16.7	15.9	95	3.4	3.3	99
Carrots <sup>2</sup>	6.0	5.6	93	1.3	1.2	92
Cauliflower <sup>2</sup>	6.7	7.1	106	.7	.6	95
Celery <sup>2</sup>	11.6	11.3	97	5.1	4.9	96
Sweet corn	37.6	37.7	100	3.6	3.6	101
Cucumbers	21.2	19.6	92	2.4	2.3	94
Eggplant	1.5	1.3	87	.2	.2	89
Escarole-Endive	2.5	2.6	104	.3	.3	117
Lettuce	40.4	42.7	106	11.7	11.8	100
Green peppers <sup>2</sup>	12.9	12.4	96	1.2	1.1	95
Spinach	1.8	1.6	90	.2	.2	92
Tomatoes	33.4	35.1	105	6.9	6.6	95
Total 14 vegetables	240.1	238.5	99	39.8	38.8	97
Honeydew melons	4.4	4.4	100	.7	.6	92
Cantaloups	28.8	30.7	107	3.7	4.1	111
Watermelons	85.0	98.6	116	11.5	11.8	103
Total melons <sup>3</sup>	118.2	133.7	113	15.9	16.6	104

<sup>1</sup>These are projections based on historic relationships and are not official estimates of the Crop Reporting Board. <sup>2</sup>April, May and June. <sup>3</sup>Includes fresh market and processing. <sup>4</sup>May not add to total due to rounding. <sup>5</sup>Percentage figures listed are correct—Production data in this table have been rounded.

Vegetables for Fresh Market, ESS, USDA.

#### Imports of Mexican Vegetables\*

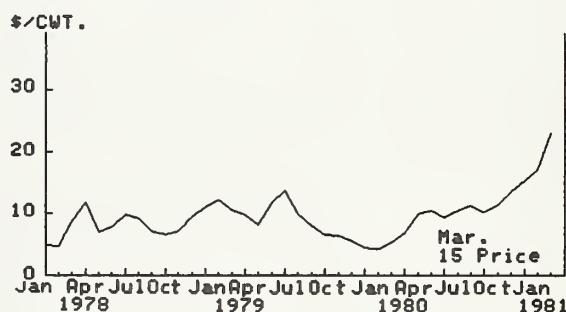


\*Partial season - October through mid April only - Border crossings as reported by AMS

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#### Onions: U.S. Grower Prices



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NEG ESS 1057-81 (5)

cool temperatures slowed growth and caused problems with blight and seed stems. Some harvesting had begun in the Rio Grande Valley in late March and peaked in mid April. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden area, wet conditions slowed development. Harvest was expected to begin in mid April, but drier weather was needed to avoid disease problems. At Laredo, conditions remain fair and yield prospects are good. Disease and insect problems have been minimal.

Stocks of onions in common storage in 11 summer onion-producing States and in cold storage in all U.S. areas on January 1, 1981, were estimated at 5.53 million

#### Prospects for Leading Items

##### Onions

The Texas onion crop is currently forecast at 3.09 million cwt. (140,000 metric tons), down 13 percent from last year and the March 1981 forecast.

Cloudy, wet conditions during March in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas reduced yield prospects. Damp soils and

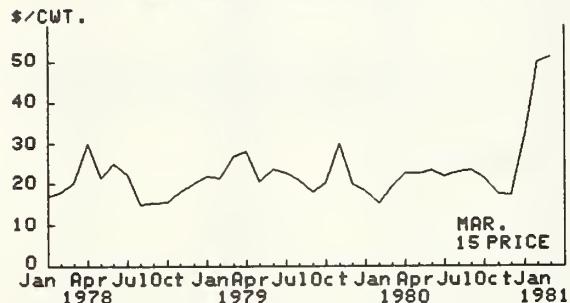
**Table 2—Major sources of U.S. winter tomato supplies<sup>1</sup>**

Season Nov. 1 thru mid-April	Florida	Mexico <sup>2</sup>	Other	Total	Mexico percent Percent of total
	Thous. cwt.			Percent	
1978/79	5,666	5,546	2	11,214	49
1979/80	6,443	5,025	1	11,469	44
1980/81	5,512	4,095	5	9,612	43

<sup>1</sup>Fruit and Vegetable Division-AMS-USDA.

<sup>2</sup>Border crossings include shipments to Canada.

#### Tomatoes: U.S. Grower Prices



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NEG ESS 1060-81 (5)

cwt., 29 percent below a year earlier. Cold storage holdings, at 7.8 million pounds, were 21 percent below a year ago. On March 1, cold storage holdings of onions had decreased to 4.4 million pounds, 32 percent smaller than a year earlier. Because of small storage stocks and prospects for a smaller crop in Texas, grower prices for onions have risen sharply from a year ago. In mid-March, prices for U.S. No. 1 yellow storage onions stood at \$15 a 50 pound sack, f.o.b., Columbia Basin, Washington, compared with only \$2.08 the previous year. Prices are expected to remain high until the summer onion crop is marketed.

Nevertheless, the summer crop may not provide much price relief. Planting intentions for the 1981 non-storage, late-crop onions are estimated at 12,100 acres, 11 percent below 1980. However, planting intentions for late season storage onions at 54,200 acres (excluding California), are up 5 percent from a year ago. California growers of late-season onions, used for processing and fresh market, intend to plant 23,000 acres, 18 percent less than a year ago.

#### Tomatoes

Total tomato supplies have been running substantially behind last year. Domestic unloads have been down 17 percent from a year ago and imports, mostly from Mexico, have been down 23 percent. Reflecting these smaller supplies, wholesale prices in New York City in March were three times higher than a year earlier.

The April 1, 1981, planted acreage of tomatoes in major producing States is estimated at 35,100 acres (14,200 hectares), 5 percent above the 1980 planted

acreage for the same period. Based on patterns for the past three seasons, tomatoes should be harvested from about 33,800 acres, and the production will total approximately 6.6 million cwt, down 5 percent from 1980. Florida and South Carolina account for nearly two-thirds of the April-June harvest area. The Florida crop in Dade County and Pompano areas is in good condition, but production has been small after the January freeze. Some improvement is expected as the season progresses. The volume from the Palmetto-Ruskin area will likely be good. In South Carolina, tomato planting was about two-thirds complete by the end of March. Cold and windy weather damaged some plants and necessitated replanting to a certain extent. California's desert tomato crop is growing well, and shipments will be made in May.

The Florida harvest will also likely peak in May, when the Palmetto-Ruskin area reaches heavy production. The 8,500 acres planted in South Carolina is 12 percent more than last year, and peak supplies are expected in June. Alabama, Arkansas, California, and Texas also ship in late spring.

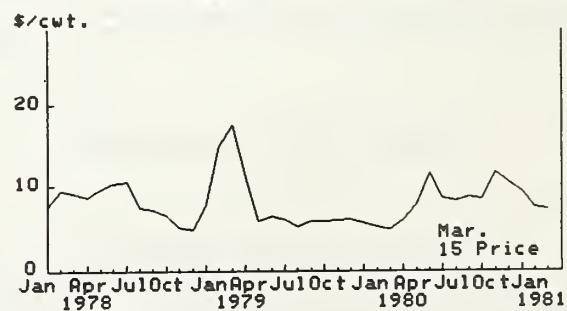
With prospective supplies of tomatoes forecast to be about the same as a year ago during the second quarter, grower prices will probably decline from winter highs and average about the same as last spring.

#### Cabbage

Unloads of cabbage this past winter were substantially higher than a year ago, as California and other sections increased their shipments to fill the void caused by the Florida freeze. In mid-March, prices for 1-3/4 bushel cartons of cabbage ranged from \$3.30 to 3.50, f.o.b., Central Florida shipping points, compared with \$2.20 to \$2.55 a year ago. During the same period, f.o.b. prices in the lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas ranged from \$2.30 to 2.45, compared with \$2 a year earlier. Thus, the Florida freeze had less effect on cabbage prices than the 1979 Texas freeze, which caused cabbage prices to range from \$10 to \$12 during the winter.

The 1981 planted acreage of cabbage at 15,900 acres (6,410 hectares) is down 5 percent from the April 1, 1980, planted acreage. Based on average yields, production will total about 3.3 million cwt., 1 percent less than 1980. Florida and California, the two leading producers of cabbage during the spring months, reduced their acreage 21 and 5 percent, respectively. Georgia also

#### Cabbage: U.S. Grower Prices



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showed a 15 percent reduction. New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, and Texas have acreage increases. In Florida, harvest was active in April, but volume was below normal because of poor market conditions. Quality and size were good, but yields were below average. California's crop progressed normally, and ample supplies are expected from the south and central coast areas through June.

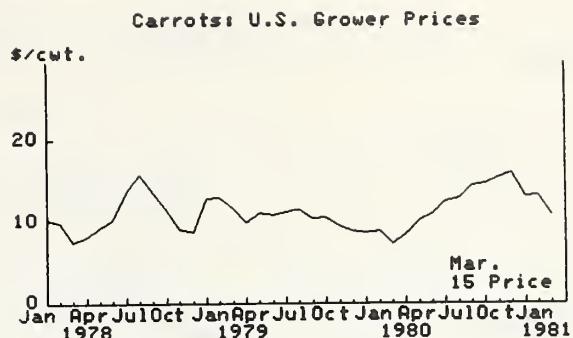
Grower prices for cabbage will likely increase slightly from current levels but remain near a year earlier throughout the spring.

### Lettuce

The 1981 lettuce harvest for the next 3 months will come from an estimated 42,700 acres (17,300 hectares) planted during January-March. This is a 6 percent rise over the acreage planted last year. Based on patterns of the past three seasons, about 41,700 acres will be harvested, and the crop will total about 11.8 million cwt. This compares with an estimated 11.7 million cwt. in 1980.

Lettuce acreage in California's San Joaquin Valley is up 4 percent this year; harvest began in late March. Weather has been favorable for growth and maturity of south coast lettuce. Volume from Salinas will be heavy in May. Lettuce in Central Arizona has made excellent progress and harvest should continue there, as well as in New Mexico, through mid-June. Lettuce from Florida has been of excellent quality, but prices have been low for the Florida area, where the harvest should be completed in May. The New Jersey lettuce harvest will begin in mid-May and continue through June.

Total unloads of lettuce in 41 major cities through mid-April were 4 percent larger than a year ago, despite a drop in winter lettuce acreage, which was 8 percent smaller. A mild winter helped boost yields and tonnage. Weekly average f.o.b. prices ranged from \$3 in January to \$7 a carton in late March, when supplies were short as production shifted from winter to spring areas. In April, prices remained in the \$3.50 to \$4.50 range. Because of ample supplies from commercial producing areas and increased supplies from local output in the late spring and early summer, lettuce prices may remain low for much of this period.



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### Carrots

The 1981 carrot acreage planted January-March is estimated at 5,600 acres (2,270 hectares), 7 percent less than was planted for the same period in 1980. Applying the same percentages that have prevailed the past three seasons, indications point to 4,820 acres for harvest and a crop of 1.22 million cwt, compared with 1.33 million cwt. a year ago. All of the decreased acreage is in California. Texas, a minor producer, expects to double its acreage, but that will only account for 9 percent of the total.

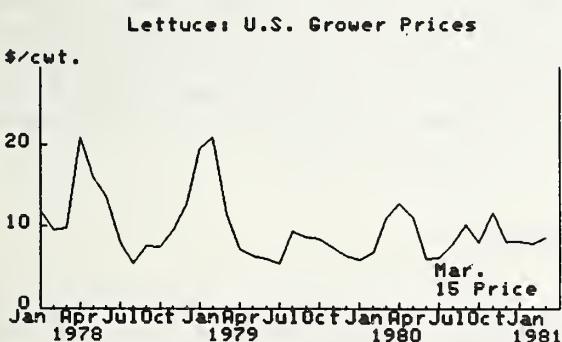
California's carrot crop progressed normally through March and April. Harvest began in the San Joaquin Valley in April and will peak in June. The crop on California's central coast is a little behind its usual development.

Carrot unloads to fresh market outlets from major districts of California, Texas, and Florida have been running about 7 percent behind last year, despite the fact that planted acreage was 3 percent larger. California shipping-point prices during March ranged from \$5.50 to \$5.75 a carton of 48 one-pound film bags, f.o.b., Kern District, California, compared with \$3.50 to 3.75 a year ago. These prices were higher than those for Texas and Florida carrots but less than January and February prices, which averaged a dollar higher.

### Celery

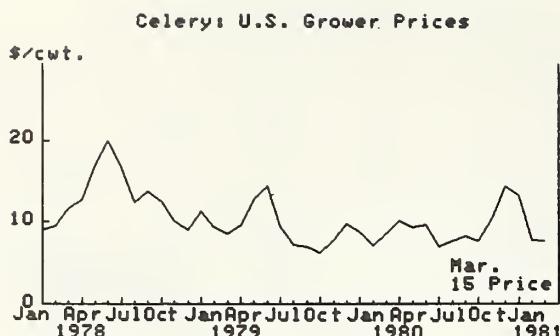
Celery acreage planted during January-March is estimated at 11,400 acres (4,590 hectares), down 2 percent from last year. If patterns of the past 3 years prevail, this should yield about 10,500 acres for harvest, and the crop will approximate 4.9 million cwt. If these relationships hold true, the 1981 harvest will be 4 percent smaller than last year's crop.

Mild days and cool nights were beneficial to the celery crop in the Everglades and Zellwood areas of Florida. Quality and yields were good in both areas. Harvest of celery on California's Central coast will start in May; good weather this winter and spring has put plantings ahead of schedule. Harvest was completed in San Diego County and the desert by April 1. Volume was heavy from Ventura County in April.



USDA

NEG ESS 1059-81 (5)



USDA

NEG ESS 1056-81 (5)

Unloads of celery in principal U.S. markets during winter 1981 were running slightly above those of a year ago, as increased shipments from California more than offset smaller supplies from Florida. Despite the freeze, however, f.o.b. prices for Florida celery were the same in March 1981 as they were a year earlier. During March, celery prices were depressed and market demand seemed slow. Although the crop in Florida suffered only light damage, there was some reluctance on the part of the trade to buy from this source.

### Sweet Corn

The acreage planted to sweet corn in major producing States, 37,700 acres (15,300 hectares), is virtually the same as a year ago. The 1981 crop is expected to be 3.6 million cwt., up slightly from last year.

Nearly 85 percent of the spring crop is produced in Florida, where production is concentrated in Dade County and Pompano areas. As of April, yields were down slightly but were expected to improve. Crop condition was very good. Good volume is likely through April. In the Everglades area, the corn crop was damaged by frost on March 21. Foliage was burned, and some acreage will be lost. Planting continues in the central area.

California's sweet corn is in good condition. Harvest was expected to begin the first week in May. Most of the sweet corn volume will come from the Coachella Valley during the next 2 months, with smaller amounts coming from other shipping points in Southern California during late May and early June.

So far this season, shipments of sweet corn to major U.S. markets have trailed last year by 22 percent because of the freeze that damaged much of Florida's early corn. Reflecting the smaller supplies, prices have been substantially higher. In mid-March, cartons of 4-1/2-5 dozen ears of yellow corn were priced at \$8.80, f.o.b., South Florida shipping points, compared with \$6 a

year earlier. Prices in late April dropped to \$3.50-\$4.00 as supplies increased. Prices may slip further, but sharply higher harvesting and marketing costs may act as a floor on prices near the \$2.75 to \$3.00 range.

### Cantaloups and Honeydews

The April 1 estimate of acreage planted to cantaloups, at 30,700 acres (12,400 hectares), is 7 percent larger than the planted acreage for the same period last year. Honeydew acreage planted in Texas since January 1 is estimated at 4,400 acres (1,780 hectares), the same as a year ago. This year's cantaloup crop is expected to total 4.13 million cwt, up 11 percent from last year's crop. The honeydew crop should be approximately 619,000 cwt., down 8 percent from 1980.

In Georgia, cantaloup planting was well ahead of last year's slow pace. Plantings in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas—our earliest domestic supply source—progressed well during February but were delayed by cool, wet weather in March. Volume harvest is expected in mid May. In Arizona, cantaloups are ahead of schedule; harvest will begin in May and continue through July. Planting of cantaloups in the California desert was completed in March, and harvest will peak during the last half of June.

Honeydew planting in Texas progressed on schedule with only slight delays in February and March because of rain and wet fields. Unseasonably warm weather in February allowed planting to start early.

Through mid-April, imported unloads of cantaloups in 41 major U.S. markets were about 8 percent smaller than a year ago. Unloads of honeydews—largely from Mexico and Puerto Rico were slightly larger. Early prices for both through April were only marginally lower than a year earlier, possibly the result of heavy supplies and reasonable prices for competitive fruits.

### Watermelons

Watermelon acreage planted since January 1 is placed at 98,600 acres (39,900 hectares), up 16 percent from a year earlier. If yields are the same as the past 3 years, the 1981 spring crop should total about 11.8 million cwt., compared with about 11.5 million cwt. from comparable plantings a year ago.

Florida accounts for 55 percent of the 1981 spring acreage; Texas contributes 24 percent. In Florida, plantings and replantings were completed in April, while harvest began in the middle of the month from a few fields that escaped the freeze. In central Florida, the crop is making fair progress. All conditions point to an excellent crop in Alabama. California's spring watermelon plantings are complete in the Imperial and Palo Verde Valleys; harvest will peak in June.

## PROCESSED VEGETABLES

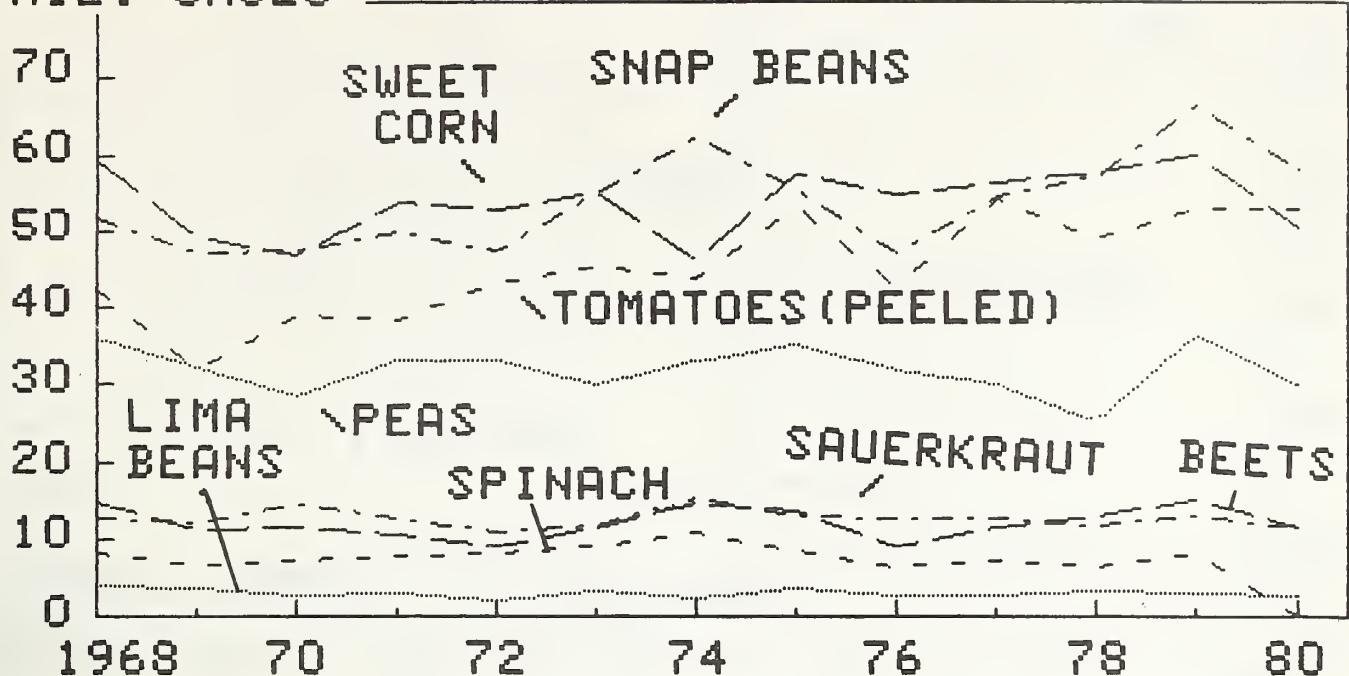
Total supplies of processed vegetables at the beginning of the 1980/81 marketing season were moderately smaller than a year earlier but about the same as in 1978/79. (This includes frozen vegetables and 10 canned items, excluding important packs of tomato paste, catsup, and

sauces.) Sales of canned vegetables have been steady this year, and canned vegetable stocks will be substantially smaller at the end of this season than they were a year ago.

Stocks of frozen vegetables (excluding frozen potato

# SELECTED CANNED VEGETABLE PACKS

MIL. CASES



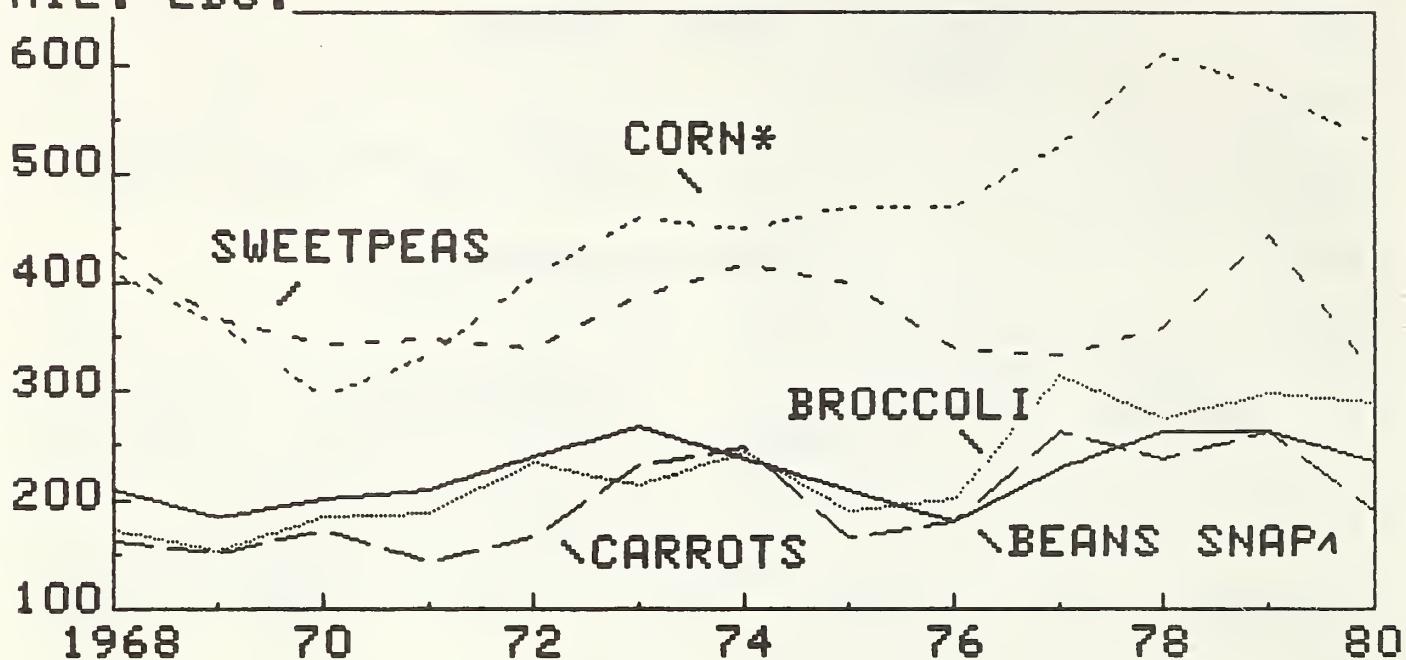
SOURCE: NATIONAL FOOD PROCESSORS  
ASSOCIATION

USDA

NEG ESS 2441-81 (5)

# SELECTED FROZEN VEGETABLES-ANNUAL PACK

MIL. LBS.



\* CUT CORN AND CORN-ON-COB. ^ INCLUDES FRENCH,  
ITALIAN GREEN BEANS AND WAX BEANS.  
SOURCE: AMERICAN FROZEN FOOD INSTITUTE.

USDA

NEG. ESS 2443-81 (4)

products) on April 1 totaled 1.1 billion pounds, 17 percent smaller than year earlier. Furthermore, disappearance was dampened by higher prices. The 1980 packs of frozen vegetables totaled 2.4 billion pounds, down from 1979's record 2.8 billion. The three Northwestern States and California account for nearly all frozen vegetables packed in the United States.

Canned vegetable prices advanced last fall, reaching a high in November. Because of the smaller packs, prices remained up throughout the fall and winter.

In March, the ESS index of 10 canned vegetable prices stood at 219, nearly a fifth higher than March 1980;

prices are expected to remain above a year earlier throughout the summer. A reduction in contracted acreage for processing vegetables suggests that processors are attempting to maintain the supply-demand position of the past year. Inflation will keep the costs of processing and marketing up. Therefore, for 1981, the ESS wholesale price index for 10 canned vegetables is expected to average moderately higher than the 200 registered in 1980.

With smaller supplies of most frozen vegetables, wholesale prices in early April were moderately higher than a year ago; prices will likely remain higher through the

second quarter. Expected larger packs of a few major frozen vegetables may lower prices during the summer.

## 1981 Acreage Down Slightly

For major processing crops, the prospective 1981 planted acreage contracted in the United States is estimated at 1.40 million acres (566,000 hectares), down 3 percent from last year. Planting intentions are down 1 to 25 percent for all crops except sweet corn, which is up 4 percent. Contracted tonnage of cabbage for kraut is forecast to be 11 percent larger, while contracted tonnage of tomatoes is up 8 percent from last year. Planting intentions for 6 canning crops (lima beans, snap beans, beets, sweet corn, green peas, and spinach) are down 6 percent, while the projected acres for freezing crops (green lima beans, snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and winter spinach) will probably be 4 percent larger than 1980.

### Snap Beans

Canner's stocks of canned snap beans on February 1 totaled 35 million cases (24/303's), 7 percent more than last year's large carryover. Assuming average movement, stocks on May 1 would approximate 20 million cases,

indicating that the industry will be faced with a large carryover on July 1. Reflecting this situation, canners and growers plan to contract for only 170,900 acres, 11 percent less than a year ago.

Prices for canned green beans varied among types of packs and regions, but averaged moderately higher than 1980, despite heavy supplies. In March, extra standard cut midwest green beans were quoted at \$6.50 a case (24/303's), compared with \$5.90 a year ago. Fancy whole Northwest Blue Lakes were priced at \$8.35 a case, compared with \$8.25 in 1980. However, institutional sizes were priced substantially lower in March than a year ago, and prices may be reduced further before the new packing season begins.

Frozen snap bean stocks on April 1 were 1 percent smaller than a year ago and sharply below the previous 2 years. Regular cut stocks were up 11 percent; French cut stocks were down 24 percent. Reflecting the manageable stocks position, growers and freezers contracted for a total of 57,150 acres, up 1 percent from a year ago. Wholesale prices have remained steady throughout the year. Prices for regular and French cut green beans in institutional packs of 12/2-1/2 pound cartons averaged about 42 cents a pound, f.o.b., West Coast shipping points—about the same as last year. Shipments of regu-

**Table 3—Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings**

Crop	Planted Acreage				1981 as percentage change from contract 1980	
	1979 Total	1980		Prospective <sup>1</sup> 1981		
		Total	Contract			
1,000 acres						
Beans, green lima:						
Freezing	41.2	29.8	28.8	28.6	99	
Canning	27.6	23.8	23.7	20.6	87	
Bean, snap:						
Freezing	69.8	59.6	56.3	57.2	101	
canning	235.6	215.0	191.0	170.9	89	
Beets for canning	19.6	14.8	14.8	11.5	78	
Corn, sweet:						
Freezing	128.7	115.9	115.5	126.7	110	
Canning	323.9	288.0	287.8	292.9	102	
Cucumbers for pickles (spring, summer and fall)	137.1	119.6	105.9	93.4	88	
Peas, green:						
Freezing	163.7	122.9	122.3	127.2	104	
Canning	254.4	222.2	222.2	200.2	90	
Spinach (winter):						
Freezing	9.6	9.1	9.0	4.4	49	
Canning	6.1	6.2	6.2	7.0	114	
Tomatoes	321.6	267.4	261.6	257.8	99	
Total 8 crops <sup>2</sup>	1,739.0	1,494.1	1,445.7	1,398.4	97	

<sup>1</sup>Under contract.

<sup>2</sup>May not add due to rounding

Vegetables, ESS USDA

lar cut green beans were down 18 percent in February; inventories were up 16 percent.

## Peas

On March 1, canners' stocks of green peas totaled 14,267 cases (24/303's), up 2 percent from a year earlier. Despite the smaller 1980 pack of 30.1 million cases, a large carryover at the beginning of the season resulted in total supplies of 36.3 million cases—a bit high. Because of slow movement this year, another large carryover of canned peas is expected. Reflecting this, canners and growers have contracted for 200,210 acres in 1981, 10 percent less than a year ago. If average yields are obtained, supplies of canned green peas will decline from the high levels of the past 2 years. However, even with the reduced acreage, the 1981/82 supply of canned green peas will be near historical U.S. consumption requirements. In recent years, consumption of green peas has ranged from 28.3 to 33.7 million cases (24/303's). Wholesale prices for both consumer and institutional packs of green peas have been unsettled, but in April, most canners raised prices, averaging 25 cents to 50 cents more a case for most retail packs.

Frozen pea stocks on April 1, at 120.5 million pounds, were 20 percent smaller than last year's large supplies. This year's contract acreage for freezing, 127,170 acres, is up 4 percent from a year ago. If average yields are obtained, the 1981 pack should approximate 332 million pounds. With the current rate of movement, total supplies for the 1981/82 season will be 8 to 10 percent smaller than last year and 20 percent smaller than 1979/80.

Prices for frozen peas remained firm throughout the winter, but most freezers raised prices in March or April in anticipation of smaller supplies later on. Currently retail packs of frozen peas are priced at \$6.10 a case (24/10-ounce cartons) and institutional packs of 12/2-1/2-pound cartons are priced at 39 cents a pound, f.o.b., the West Coast.

## Sweet Corn

Canners' stocks of sweet corn totaled 26.1 million cases (24/303's) on February 1—26 percent smaller than a year ago and the lowest supply on that date since 1975. Canned corn prices throughout the winter have been running sharply above the 1980 level, with prices for midwest whole kernel Golden corn at \$8.35 to 8.50 a case (24/303s) in April, compared with \$6.00 to \$6.25 a year ago. Total shipments of canned corn (24/303 equivalents) during July 1–February 1 were slightly behind a year earlier. For 1981, canners plan to increase acreage only about 2 percent to 292,940 acres, which means that canned supplies will still be short throughout the 1981/82 marketing season. With average yields and a projected carryover of less than 5 to 6 million cases, the 1981/82 supply will be less than 60 million cases, which barely exceeds the usual annual consumption in the United States.

Total stocks of frozen corn on April 1 were 31 percent smaller than a year ago. Stocks of cut corn were down 30 percent, while stocks of on-cob corn were 31 percent

smaller. Total frozen corn disappearance through February 1 was heavy, and with smaller supplies of frozen corn on hand, prices remained firm throughout the winter. In late March cases of 24/10-ounce cartons of frozen corn were priced at \$6.80 a carton, compared with \$5.85 a year earlier; institutional packs of 12/2-1/2 pound cartons were being sold at 42 to 43 cents a pound, f.o.b., West Coast shipping points, compared with 31 to 33 cents a pound in 1980. Despite higher prices, freezers expect to be essentially out of product at the beginning of the new pack year. Reflecting this supply-price situation, freezers have contracted for 126,700 acres of sweet corn for freezing, 10 percent more than a year ago.

## Lima Beans

With 2.4 million cases (24/303's) of lima beans on hand in November and movement at a slow pace, processors plan to contract for 13 percent fewer acres for canning in 1981. Shipments of canned lima beans as of March 1 totaled 1.8 million cases, down slightly from previous years. If 1981 yields are comparable to previous years, total pack in 1981 will probably range from 2.5 to 2.7 million cases. This, together with a carryover of more than 2 million cases, will yield ample supplies for the 1981/82 marketing season. Because of large supplies of canned lima beans, prices have shown some weakness. In April, Midwest medium green lima beans were listed at \$8.50 to \$9.25 per case (24/303's), compared with \$8. to \$8.50 a year ago. However, trade sources indicate that actual sales were made at less than the list prices.

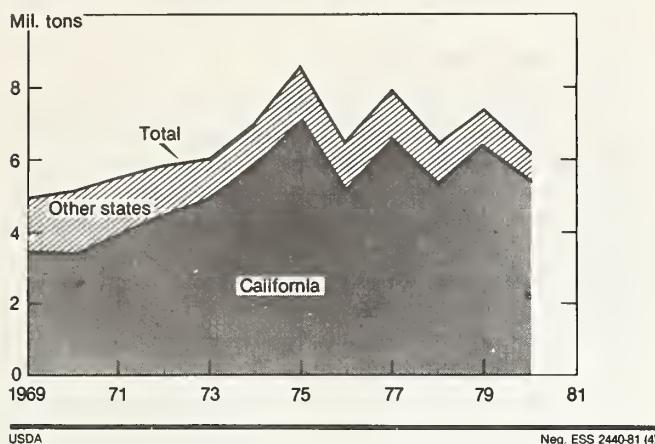
Stocks of frozen lima beans on April 1, at 61.2 million pounds, were 31 percent smaller than a year ago. Within the lima bean group, however, stocks of Fordhook lima beans were up 5 percent while stocks of the baby lima beans were down 48 percent. Reflecting this supply situation, the lima bean area contracted for freezing is down 1 percent from a year ago. However, the area of baby lima beans, at 21,830 acres, is up 15 percent from a year earlier, while the area of Fordhook limas, at 6,750 acres, is 32 percent less. With average yields, the pack of frozen lima beans will be down slightly from last year's small pack. Tight supplies and high prices will prevail throughout the 1981/82 marketing season unless additional acreage is planted to lima beans.

## Tomatoes

Stocks of canned tomatoes on January 1 totaled 33.5 million cases (24/303's), down 12 percent from a year earlier. Shipments through the last half of 1980 totaled 31.1 million cases, 12 percent larger than a year ago. Lower stocks and strong movement of tomato juice and most tomato products also indicate that prices will remain firm at least until the new pack begins later this summer.

In California, growers have contracted for 205,000 acres of processing tomatoes this year—3 percent less than a year ago. For the United States as a whole, contracted acreage is down only 1 percent, because most of the Midwestern States contracted for larger acreages this year. Only Indiana, down 20 percent, and Virginia, down 21 percent, showed declines in contracted acreages

## Processed Tomato Production



of processing tomatoes. In California, where nearly 80 percent of the crop is grown, it is estimated that, by mid-March, contracts had been written for 73 percent of the acreage to be contracted. This compares with 90 percent at the same time in 1980. This year, tomato growers are in a somewhat stronger bargaining position than they were last year; therefore, price negotiations are slower. However, a 3-percent decrease in contracted acreage is expected in California. For the United States, contracted tonnage is forecast at 6.64 million tons, 8 percent larger than last year. Tonnage in California will likely total 5.7 million tons, an increase of 3 percent over 1980.

Processors' field price offers for the 1981 tonnage have not been reported yet; however, prices to growers are expected to be above a year earlier, because processors will be increasing the packs of tomatoes and tomato products.

## Cucumbers for Pickles

The 1981 contracted area of cucumbers for pickles will likely be 93,410 acres (37,800 hectares), a decrease of 12 percent from 1980. Acreage in North Carolina is expected to be down 6 percent from a year ago, while Michigan expects a 2-percent increase. If this year follows the pattern of the past 3 years, acres for harvest will be 89,673, and with average yields this year, production will approximate 460,022 tons, down 15 percent from 1980. If yields are proportional to the decline in output the 1981 pack will total only about 55 to 60 million cases (24/303 equivalent). However, this year's carryover is expected to exceed 10 million cases, giving total supplies of approximately 70-75 million. With annual consumption ranging from 72 to 75 million cases, consumers will be faced with tight supplies and high prices throughout the 1981/82 marketing year.

## Sauerkraut

Contract tonnage of cabbage for kraut, at 223,040 tons (202,340 metric tons), is 11 percent larger than 1980. New York, the largest producing State, is expecting a 4 percent decrease in tonnage. However, Wisconsin's production will likely rise 20 percent; Ohio growers plan a

33-percent increase. In mid-April, cases of New York fancy 24/303's were priced at \$6.55, compared with \$6.20 a year ago. Midwest 6/10 institutional packs were priced at \$8.50 to \$9.50 compared with \$8 to \$8.35. This year's larger pack, combined with a projected smaller carryover, may result in stable prices and ample supplies of sauerkraut during the 1981/82 marketing season.

## Beets

Stocks of canned beets on January 1 totaled 11.3 million cases (24/303 equivalent), down 1 percent from a year earlier. Despite heavy supplies, prices for canned beets have remained at last year's levels. However, the 1981 acreage of beets used for canning is estimated at 11,510 acres (4,660 hectares), down 22 percent from last year's contracted acreage. Wisconsin expects a 16 percent decrease in 1981; New York plans to reduce acreage 8 percent below a year ago.

## Carrots

Raw carrot tonnage used for processing in 1980 dropped to 328,320 tons, down from a record 462,200 tons in 1979. As a result of the smaller tonnage, the pack dropped 38 percent to 3.6 million cases. Supplies on January 1, 1981, totaled 3.9 million cases (24/303's), down 18 percent from a year earlier. Nevertheless, movement has been good and prices have remained firm throughout the marketing season.

## Broccoli

California's spring pack of broccoli is underway. Planted acreage is estimated at 19,900 acres (8,050 hectares), down 1 percent from a year ago. Good weather facilitated planting, except in Ventura county where heavy March rains delayed plantings and caused some damage. If harvested acres and yields maintain historical relationships, the second quarter broccoli crop should total 187 million pounds. Carryover stocks of frozen broccoli on April 1, at 78.6 million pounds, were 8 percent smaller than the year earlier. The price for broccoli spears in April was \$10.05 per case (24/10 ounce), up 60 cents from a year ago. Prices for institutional packs of spears—(12 2-1/2-pound) at 57 cents per pound, f.o.b., the West Coast—were the same as 1980.

## Spinach

Carryover stocks of frozen spinach on April 1 totaled 57.8 million pounds, about normal for this point in the season but 11 percent larger than last year. Freezers have contracted for 4,400 acres of winter spinach, 51 percent less than a year ago. A larger carryover, combined with this year's smaller production, will yield adequate supplies for the 1981/82 marketing year. Wholesale prices have remained fairly steady throughout the 1980/81 marketing year. In April, prices for 24/10 ounce cartons of leaf spinach ranged from \$5.10 to \$5.20 a case, down slightly from a year ago. Prices for institutional packs (12 3/4-pound) ranged from 24 to 25 cents per pound, f.o.b., West Coast shipping point—compared with 28 cents a year ago.

Canned spinach stocks on March 1 total 665,000 actual cases, 31 percent larger than March 1980 and 100 percent more than March 1979. For the marketing year that ended March 1, California cannery shipped only 1,568 million cases, 37 percent less than a year ago. California is the largest packer of canned spinach, followed by Arkansas and Oklahoma.

### Asparagus

Stocks of frozen asparagus on April 1 totaled 5 million pounds, 39 percent below last year's large stocks. Canner's stocks on March 1 totaled 728,265 cases (24/303 equivalent), down 29 percent from a year earlier. Despite short supplies and high prices, movement of canned asparagus during the March-February marketing year totaled 2.8 million cases, up 4 percent from a year earlier.

This year's total acreage available for fresh market and processing is 71,900 in the five major producing States. This is only 800 more acres than 1980. All of the increase occurred in Washington where acreage increased to 23,700, offsetting acreage declines in California and Illinois. Acreage in Michigan and New Jersey remained the same as in 1980.

### Potatoes

After 2 successive seasons of reduced production, fall potato prices finally rose—and rose sharply to record levels. The 1980 fall crop of potatoes has been estimated at 265 million cwt. (12 million metric tons), down 11 percent from the 1979 crop and the smallest fall crop since 1973. The 1980 crop was harvested from 981,000 acres (397,000 hectares), 8 percent less than 1979 and 16 percent below 1978. The average yield, at 270 cwt per acre, was down 7 cwt from 1979 and 9 cwt below 1978.

In the seven eastern States, fall production, at 41.8 million cwt, was 14 percent less than 1979. Acreage was down 7 percent from the year earlier, and yields were 20 cwt per acre less. Maine's production, which accounts for 60 percent of the region's total, was down 10 percent to 25 million cwt.

Fall production in the eight central States totaled 54.6 million cwt., 12 percent less than a year earlier and 23 percent below 1978. Average yields were 193 cwt per acre—down 19 cwt. from a year earlier—and harvested acreage was down 4 percent.

In the nine western States, fall production was 168 million cwt., down 10 percent from 1979 and 19 percent from 1978. Yields per acre were up 6 cwt, but harvested acreage, 519,000 acres, was down 11 percent from the previous year. Idaho's crop was down 8 percent from 1979, while Washington and Oregon crops were down 9 and 22 percent, respectively.

As a result of smaller crops, U.S. average grower prices have been record high. In March, prices received by farmers for potatoes averaged \$8.33 per cwt, two and a half times higher than a year earlier. Higher prices prevailed throughout the potato producing areas. In Maine, March grower price averaged \$7.65 per cwt, compared

with \$3.00 the previous year, while they averaged \$6.85 in Idaho, contrasting with 2.15 a year ago.

### April Stocks Down Sharply

With a smaller 1980 crop and strong demand for potatoes this winter, it is not surprising that April 1 stocks were sharply below a year earlier. Potato stocks in 15 major producing States total 68.3 million cwt, down 26 percent from a year ago and 31 percent from April 1, 1979. As expected, processor use of raw product in the 7 leading States totaled only 71.1 million cwt., 5 percent less than the comparable period last year, because of higher prices. Disappearance through April 1 totaled 186 million cwt, 4 percent below a year ago. Total disappearance to date includes 21.3 million cwt of potatoes that were dumped during grading, fed to livestock on potato farms, discarded without grading, and lost to shrinkage (moisture loss). Disappearance during March totaled 25.9 million cwt, compared with 29.2 million cwt a year ago.

The April 1 pattern of stocks shows the usual regional differences. In the three Eastern States, (excluding Long Island, New York) estimated stocks totaled 8.33 million cwt., down 39 percent from a year ago and 25 percent below April 1979. Maine's stocks, at 7.20 million cwt, were down 40 percent from last year's high. In the central States, (excluding Ohio) stocks were estimated at 7.83 million cwt, down 42 percent from 1980 and 50 percent below April 1, 1979. In the six Western States stocks were 19 percent smaller than a year ago.

Processing use of raw potatoes was down from a year ago, partly because of smaller supplies and partly because of higher prices. Open-market grower prices for processing stock have been well above the contracts levels most processors agreed to last summer. This year, the base price in Idaho averaged \$3.50 per cwt, with incentives for quality. In April, open market quotations ranged from \$8 to \$8.50, f.o.b., grower's storage, but few potatoes were available. With the current slow movement of most processed potato products and high prices for raw product, most processors have curtailed their purchases of raw product for the season.

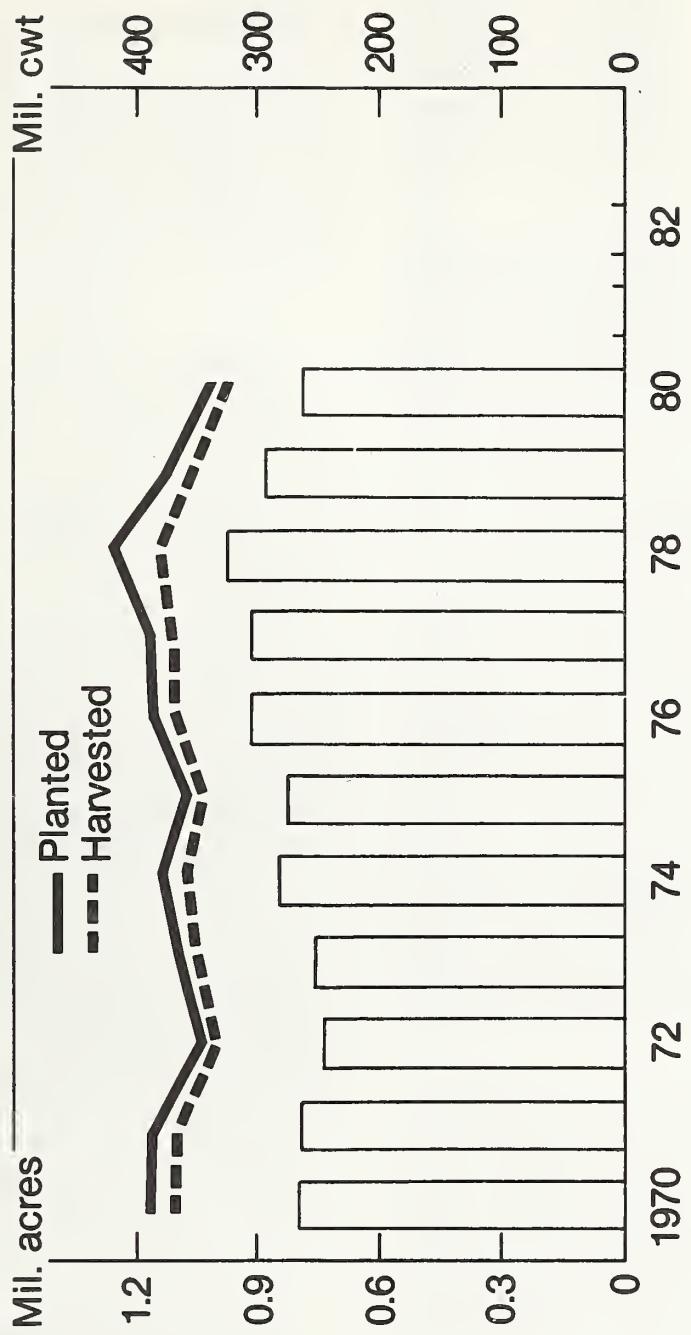
However contract negotiations between processors and growers for next fall's crop are well underway. Contracts signed in Idaho call for \$4.08 per cwt. of useable potatoes. This is an 18-percent increase over last year. As the season progresses, the increase may prove to be too small because of generally higher costs of seed and production.

### Smaller Stocks of Frozen Potatoes

Smaller supplies and good movement in recent months have reduced the stocks of frozen potato products. On April 1, 780 million pounds of frozen potatoes were in cold storages throughout the country, 14 percent less than a year ago. Holdings of frozen potatoes were largest in the West, where the bulk of the processing takes place; the Pacific and Mountain States accounted for more than two-thirds of the total frozen potato stocks. Maine's stocks of frozen potatoes were 6 percent of the U.S. total.

The processed potato industry is currently in a critical decision-making period. March 15-June 15 is usually the

## Planted Acres, Harvested Acres and Production Fall Potatoes - United States



Source: Crop production

USDA

Neg. ESS 1042-81 (4)

**Table 4—Pack of frozen potato products\***

Year	Million pounds	Year	Million pounds
1960	551	1969	2,048
1961	579	1970	2,048
1962	762	1971	2,565
1963	862	1972	2,594
1964	1,118	1973	2,691
1965	1,219	1974	2,985
1966	1,460	1975	3,001
1967	1,491	1976	3,335
1968	1,736	1977	3,623
		1978	3,849
		1979	4,090
		1980	3,593

\*American Frozen Food Institute.

peak shipping period for fresh potatoes. It is also a period when frozen potato processors build up inventories and begin contracting for next season's supplies. Currently the market for frozen potato products is flat. Most processors are operating to meet demand but are not building inventories. The food service market has been dull, with fancy long frozen french fries in Washington State listing at 29-1/2 cents a pound, f.o.b., the plant. Maine's frozen french fries were listed at 28, and Idaho's were listed at 31-1/2 cents, f.o.b., the plant. These prices were only about 2 cents more a pound despite tight supplies and increased processing and marketing costs.

The dehydrated potato market shows more firmness. The Potato Growers of Idaho report that dehydrators in Idaho are manufacturing and moving products at a brisk pace. Part of the reason for this is decreased capacity in the industry, because many facilities were closed and dismantled after the reconstituted potato-chip debacle. Another reason for the current activity is the relatively strong export markets, particularly to Japan and the Pacific Rim countries.

In addition to strong demand in the commercial market, on March 30, USDA announced the purchase of 55,000 12-1-pound cases of dehydrated potato flakes for distribution through domestic feeding programs during July 1-Sept 30. The f.o.b. price was \$7.99 a case. So far this fiscal year, USDA has purchased 65,000 12-1-pound cases of dehydrated potatoes.

#### Spring Potato Crop Larger

The April forecast of the 1981 spring potato crop places production at 21.1 million cwt. (955,000 metric tons), up 23 percent from last year's low, but still 1 percent below 1979. This year, growers reduced acreage intended for harvest to 78,400 acres (31,700 hectares), 8 percent above the 1980 record low but still the second smallest harvested acreage on record. Prospective yields, at 269 cwt. an acre, are 14 cwt an acre more than the record high set in 1979 and 34 cwt above the 1980 yield.

All production areas are sharing in the expected increases except Alabama. The California crop will likely total 10.6 million cwt., up 20 percent from last year. In the Hastings, Florida, area production is forecast at 5.04 millions cwt., 44 percent above 1980. This crop is later

than usual because of the freeze and subsequent cool weather, but growers are anticipating record yields if conditions remain favorable. In North Carolina, crop conditions are excellent. Production is forecast at 2.20 million cwt., up 21 percent from last year. In Texas, development of the 1981 crop in the Rio Grande Valley is slow because of rain and cool temperatures. However, production is expected to total 900,000 cwt, up 12 percent from a year ago.

#### Continued High Spring Prices

With potato prices already high and storage stocks of 1980 crop potatoes nearly a fourth smaller than a year ago the usual spring price rise may not occur. Total supplies of table-stock potatoes are smaller than they have been for years, and even with a larger spring crop potato prices will probably remain high. In the late summer prices will depend on the summer and fall crop prospects.

#### Sweetpotatoes

Marketing of one of the smallest sweetpotato crops on record is winding down seasonally and will be completed in May. Fresh market use of this smaller crop through early April was down 18 percent from a year ago when a large crop was marketed. Reflecting smaller supplies, grower prices have been sharply higher than a year ago, and in March—at \$20.50 per cwt.—were nearly double the March 1980 figure.

Canners' stocks of canned sweetpotatoes on January 1, at 2.25 million cases (24/303's), were 53 percent smaller than a year ago. Reflecting smaller supplies, movement during July 1-January 1 was down 7 percent. Despite the smaller supplies, however, wholesale prices currently are about the same as a year ago. Sirup-packed 24/303's were priced at \$11 in April 1981, the same as a year ago; the 24/2-1/2's were \$16, also the same as last year. Trade sources report that sales have been brisk and that stocks will be essentially depleted at the beginning of the new pack year.

The July-December 1980 pack of sweetpotatoes totaled only 5.5 million cases (24/303's), down 39 percent from 1979. With canned stocks down 53 percent from a year earlier, prices will remain high throughout the summer. Canners are expected to rebuild stocks early this fall. This will serve to hold grower prices higher than they may otherwise be, assuming that plantings are only slightly larger than a year earlier.

The March Prospective Plantings report noted that growers are expected to plant 111,100 acres (45.0 hectares) of sweetpotatoes in 1981, 2 percent more than 1980 but nearly 6 percent less than 1979. North Caroli-

#### U.S. spring potato supplies

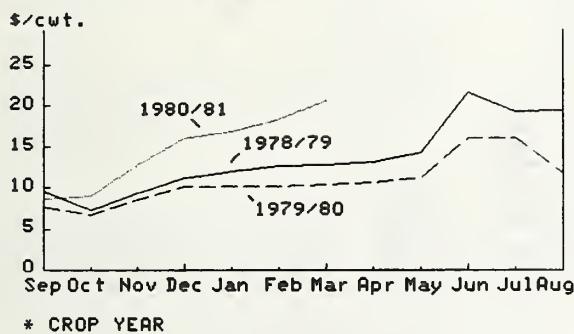
	1979	1980	1981
<i>Million cwts.</i>			
April 1 stocks	99.3	92.6	68.3
Spring production	21.3	17.1	21.1
Total	120.6	109.7	89.4

**Table 5—West European potato production, 1975-1980**

Country	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
<i>Million cwt.</i>						
<b>EC</b>						
West Germany	239.3	216.2	250.6	231.7	192.8	147.6
Netherlands	104.6	105.4	126.8	137.4	130.9	134.0
United Kingdom	100.3	105.6	146.0	161.6	143.0	151.6
France	151.3	95.4	172.0	164.6	157.4	159.0
Italy	63.9	64.7	67.9	61.8	65.2	61.7
Ireland	22.4	26.0	33.6	22.2	24.3	23.1
Belgium-Luxembourg	28.7	19.4	37.1	34.8	32.8	29.9
Denmark	14.7	12.7	21.0	20.5	18.6	17.6
Total	725.2	645.4	855.0	834.6	764.2	724.5
<b>Other</b>						
Spain	117.7	124.7	129.7	117.2	119.0	133.8
Austria	34.8	38.5	29.8	30.9	32.9	30.1
Sweden	18.5	23.3	28.2	29.5	28.3	25.4
Finland	15.0	20.9	16.2	16.4	14.9	16.5
Greece	19.1	20.6	20.3	19.9	21.0	21.0
Switzerland	21.3	19.3	17.6	21.8	21.3	21.6
Portugal	22.3	20.2	26.5	23.8	22.3	24.5
Norway	9.3	11.8	14.4	13.8	9.8	10.6
Total	258.6	279.3	282.7	273.3	269.5	283.5
Grand total	983.8	924.7	1,137.7	1,107.9	1,033.7	1,008.0

Foreign Agricultural Service

#### Sweet Potatoes: U.S. Grower Prices



USDA

NEG ESS 3074-81 (5)

na, the leading sweetpotato producing State, is showing a 3 percent increase in planting intentions, but Louisiana, the second largest producer, plans no change from 1980's acreage. California growers plan a 4 percent increase in acreage, but Texas growers will plant about the same acreage as 1980.

#### Mushrooms

Grower prices for fresh market mushrooms at Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, ranged from 69 to 72 cents a pound during the first part of April, compared with 64 to 68 cents a year ago. However, prices for processing mushrooms, at 63 to 66 cents, are a third higher than 1980, when the mushroom industry was feeling the brunt of foreign imports.

On October 17, 1980, the President determined that the duty on mushroom imports, prepared or preserved, provided for in item 144.20 of the TSUS be raised after

#### Canned Mushroom Imports (July to February 1 following year)

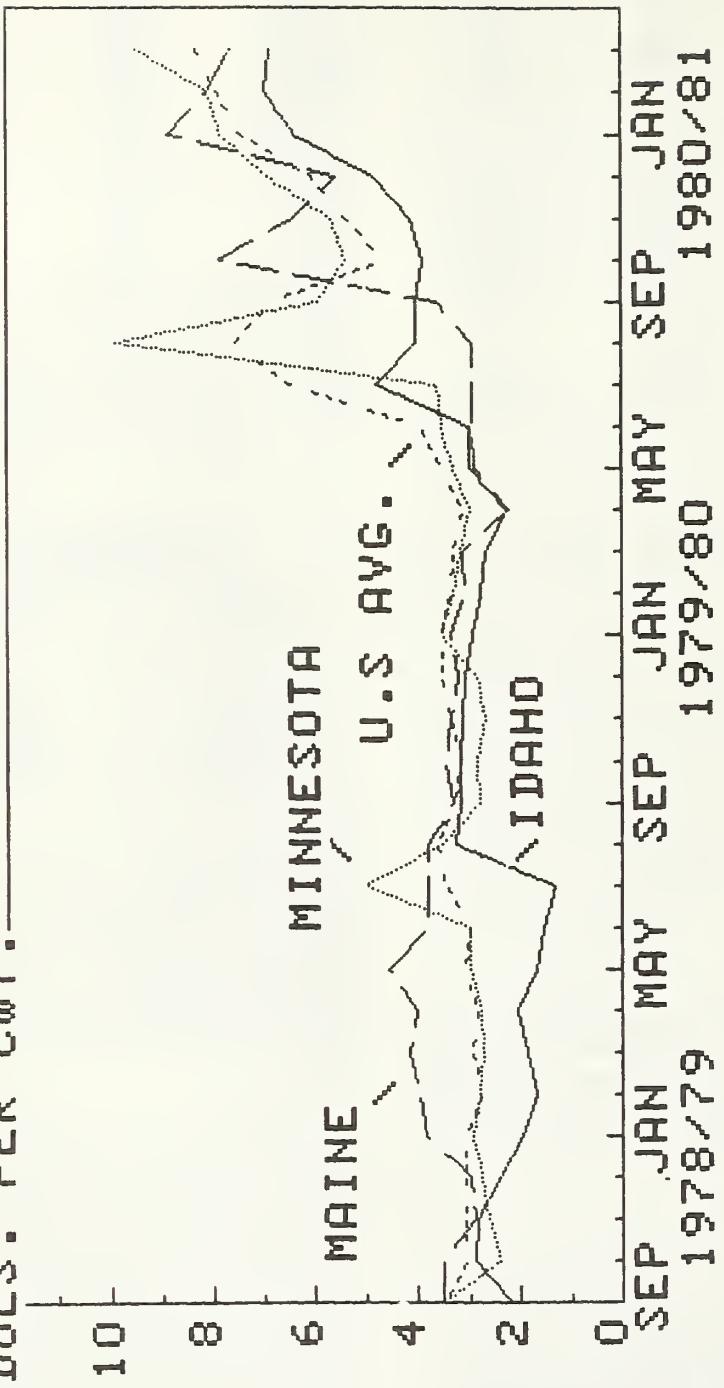
Country	1979/80	1980/81
	Million pounds	
Taiwan	35.0	30.2
South Korea	17.1	7.0
Others	10.8	28.3
Total imports	62.9	65.5

October 31, 1980, from 13.3 percent ad valorem equivalent to 33 percent for the first year, dropped to 28 percent for the second year, and further dropped to 23 percent for the third year. After that, the duty is expected to return to 3.2 cents a pound plus 10 percent ad valorem. Quantitative restrictions were not imposed. The higher tariffs are designed to enable the domestic industry to make processing adjustments to become more competitive.

It appears that the higher tariffs are effective in restricting imports. Imports of canned mushrooms in January 1981, were down 36 percent and in February imports were only half as large as a year earlier. Total imports for July-February (reflecting large purchases last fall before the tariffs became effective) were down 3 percent to 65.5 million pounds. Taiwan and Korea continue to be our major suppliers of canned mushrooms. Small quantities are being imported from the Peoples Republic of China and indications are that imports from that country will increase dramatically. Japan is a major supplier of dried mushrooms.

Mushroom growers expect prices for fresh mushrooms to follow the usual seasonal pattern and move up this summer when supplies diminish. Some price increases were evident in mid April. If the trend continues, mush-

POTATOES: GROWER PRICES, U.S. AND SELECTED  
STATES\* PER CUT.  
DOL\$:



\* CROPPING YEAR

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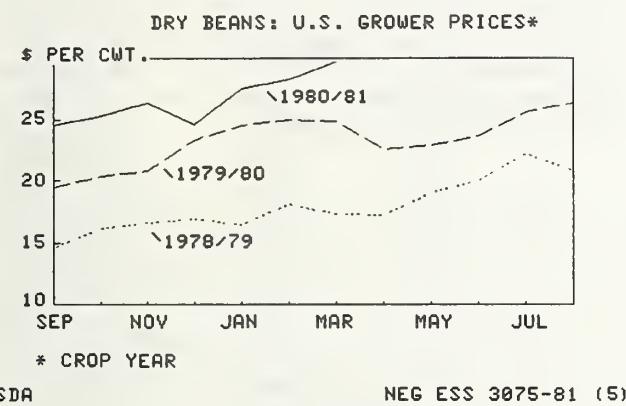
**Table 6—Beans, dry edible: Prospective plantings for 1981 season, with comparisons<sup>1</sup>**

Group of States	Acreage planted			
	1979	1980	Indicated 1981 <sup>2</sup>	1981 as percentage of 1980
	1,000 acres			
New York	42.0	53.0	55.0	104
Michigan	470.0	580.0	610.0	105
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington	355.0	446.0	472.0	106
Minnesota and North Dakota	148.0	355.0	420.0	118
Kansas, Colorado, and Utah	201.0	242.0	248.0	102
California	207.0	220.0	200.0	91
United States	1,423.0	1,896.0	2,005.0	105.7

<sup>1</sup>Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

<sup>2</sup>Indications as of April 1.

Prospective Plantings, ESS, USDA.



USDA

NEG ESS 3075-81 (5)

room prices throughout late spring and summer will average substantially higher than last year.

## Dry Beans

Dry bean growers expect to plant a total of 2 million acres this spring, nearly 6 percent more than last year and 41 percent more than in 1979. Increases in acreage are expected in Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming. Acreages in California will be down 9 percent. Montana, Nebraska and Utah growers plan to plant the same acreage as last year. The good prices bean growers received, largely as a result of sales to Mexico from the 1979 and 1980 crops, caused these increases. The bullish attitude of U.S. bean growers is further fueled by the fact that Mexico has already contracted for 8.5 million cwt. of beans from the 1981 crop. This is nearly 33 percent of last year's total output and 41 percent of 1979 production. In addition, Australia is very low on bean supplies and will need to import at least 2,000 tons of dried beans to meet normal requirements.

If 5-year average yields are obtained from the 1981 intended acreage, the 1981 U.S. total bean crop would equal about 26.9 million cwt., up slightly from last year's

26.1 million cwt. But if 1981 yields are near the 1979 record, the total crop will exceed 29.6 million cwt, 13 percent larger than in 1980 and 44 percent larger than in 1979. With domestic consumption at nearly constant low levels, strong export markets are essential to maintain production and sustain grower prices. However, domestic producers obviously are assured that export demand will be strong at least through the 1981/82 marketing year.

Demand for beans has been good for most important classes this year. Domestic use has been steady, while export demand has been substantially better for pinto, black, pink, and red beans because of exports to Mexico. Export demand has also been better than a year earlier for navy and lima beans. Exports from September 1, 1980, through the end of March 1981 totaled 11.8 million cwt., compared with 4.6 million a year earlier.

Dealer prices for navy beans have remained unchanged at \$34.50 per cwt in March, compared with \$25 a year ago. Pintos stayed the same at \$34.50, but Nebraska Great Northern beans moved up to \$36. Prices for Idaho pink beans were firm at \$36 per cwt and were given

**Peas, dry field: prospective plantings for 1981 season<sup>1,2</sup>**

State	Acreage planted		
	1980	1981 <sup>3</sup>	1981 as percentage of 1980
	1,000 acres		
Idaho	64.0	51.0	80
Washington	75.0	60.0	80
U.S.	139.0	111.0	79.9

<sup>1</sup>In principal commercial producing States.

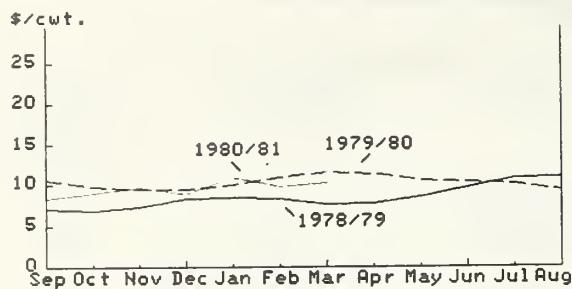
<sup>2</sup>Excludes both Wrinkled Seed Peas and Austrian Winter Peas.

<sup>3</sup>Indications as of April 1.

added strength by increased exports of pinks to Brazil.

Baby Lima beans are the star performers of the dry bean classes. In March, prices for Baby Limas reached a record high of \$52 per cwt,—compared with \$19.62 a year ago—but supplies were very tight. Prices for large limas

Dry Peas: U.S. Grower Prices \*



\* Crop year.

USDA

NEG ESS 3076-81 (5)

remained at \$39.50, down from \$43.75 per cwt in April 1980.

### Dry Peas and Lentils

Prices to growers of dry edible peas and lentils edged up in February. Yellows and Blacks continued to advance in March, but green dry peas and lentils fell back. In late

February, lentil prices reached \$27 per cwt—compared with \$43.25 per cwt in April 1980—but fell to \$24.35 in late March. Production of dry edible peas in 1980, at 3.3 million cwt., was 61 percent larger than a year earlier but still 9 percent less than 1978. Lentil production in Idaho and Washington, at 2.14 million cwt., was a record high.

Despite the large crop of edible peas, the American Dry Peas and Lentil Association estimates that domestic movement through January was down 3 percent from a year earlier when the crop was 38 percent smaller. The domestic movement of lentils through January 1981 totaled 15.1 million pounds, 5 percent more than a year ago.

With lower prices and a much larger total supply in 1980/81, dry pea exports (excluding seed) for the September 1980-March 1981 period, at 137.3 million pounds, were 59 percent larger than a year earlier. Lentil exports, at 68.7 million pounds, were 12 percent larger than a year earlier. Because of the record-large crop, lentil exports will continue to be larger throughout the marketing year. Egypt, Algeria, Colombia, and Spain are major customers for U.S. lentils. The United Kingdom, Japan, Singapore, Colombia, Venezuela, India, and Taiwan are major importers of dry peas.

**Table 7—Vegetable, fresh: Representative prices (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available) indicated periods, 1980 and 1981**

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1980		1981		Mar. 17	Apr. 14
			Mar. 18	Apr. 15	Jan. 13	Feb. 17		
<i>Dollars</i>								
New York								
Beans, snap, green 11.50	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.						
Beets, bunched	Texas	1-2/5 bu. crt. 2 doz.						
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's bu., ctn.						
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.						
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag, ctn.	25.00	26.50	21.00			
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd., 12's	11.00	11.50	7.50	12.50	10.50	10.00
Celery:								
Pascal	California	Crt. 2-3 doz.	4.75	6.25	8.75	7.00	-	5.75
Pascal	Florida	Crt. 2-3 doz.	8.50	12.00	16.00	10.00	9.50	-
Corn, sweet (yellow)	Florida	4-1/2-5 doz. crt.	-	8.25	9.00	-	7.00	8.25
Cucumbers	Florida	bu. bskt.	-	22.00	13.50	-	12.50	10.00
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. ctn.	6.75	10.50	9.00	7.50	7.50	7.50
Onions:								
Yellow, Glode, medium	New York	50-lb. sack	4.00	-	7.75	9.25	10.50	10.75
Yellow, Granex, large	Texas	50-lb. sack	-	-	-	-	-	11.00
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. crt., large	9.00	15.00	12.50	31.00	36.00	19.50
Spinach, Savoy	Texas	Bu. bskt.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tomatoes, large	Florida	30-lb. ctn.	11.50	14.00	15.50	22.00	36.25	20.00
Chicago:								
Beans, snap, green	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	11.50	13.00	22.50	-	27.50	19.50
Beets, bunched	Texas	Crt., 24's	-	-	-	-	-	-
Broccoli	California	14's bu., crt.	9.50	9.13	8.25	12.00	10.75	9.75
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	4.35	5.25	7.75	16.00	6.00	6.00
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag,						
			mesh master	6.50	10.00	10.00	-	7.75
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd. 12's	-	10.50	14.00	14.00	12.75	-
Celery:								
Pascal	California	Crt. 2-3 doz.	9.50	12.50	15.50	9.00	9.00	9.50
Pascal	Florida	Crt. 2-4 doz.	-	10.00	-	7.25	7.75	9.25
Corn, sweet (yellow)	Florida	4-1/2-5 doz. crt.	9.25	8.50	10.00	-	-	10.50
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz., head ctn.	6.75	11.00	8.25	7.50	7.00	7.00
Onions:								
Yellow, Granex, med	Texas	50 lb. sack	-	6.75	-	-	-	-
Yellow, Glode med	Midwestern	50 lb. sack	2.85	-	-	9.50	12.25	-
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. ctn., and crt.	8.50	15.25	15.50	20.00	-	25.00
Tomatoes, large	Florida	30 lb. ctn	12.00	11.25	11.00	20.50	-	20.50

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, Market News Report, AMS, USDA

**Table 8—Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices, per hundredweight, United States, indicate periods, 1980 and 1981**

Commodity	1980			1981		
	February	March	January	February	March 1-15	
Asparagus	61.10	64.20	-	106.00	81.80	
Beans, snap	31.50	30.70	54.30	55.00	64.40	
Cabbage	5.14	4.87	9.40	7.51	7.33	
Carrots	8.81	7.21	13.00	13.10	10.70	
Celery	7.06	8.54	13.30	7.81	7.72	
Corn, sweet	14.10	13.60	14.20	22.40	19.50	
Cucumbers	-	-	16.90	-	-	
Lettuce	6.79	10.90	8.07	7.84	8.54	
Onions	4.20	5.30	15.40	17.20	23.00	
Peppers, green	22.00	29.70	31.90	79.20	82.80	
Tomatoes	15.30	19.40	31.90	46.90	51.10	

Agricultural Prices, ESS, USDA

**Table 9—Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States by months, 1963 to date<sup>1</sup>**

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
(1967=100)													
1963	102	95	82	83	78	88	85	65	62	70	91	94	83
1964	100	103	98	89	83	90	80	76	76	78	101	87	88
1965	78	183	97	107	127	103	84	77	78	87	89	87	91
1966	110	115	101	108	94	99	115	102	91	92	101	95	102
1967	100	94	96	110	104	128	109	84	80	88	101	104	100
1968	119	117	125	129	105	98	92	86	92	91	113	118	107
1969	104	109	113	110	118	97	97	94	90	111	151	130	110
1970	130	123	123	109	121	110	101	96	111	95	102	95	110
1971	111	116	149	135	126	127	119	101	99	121	172	138	126
1972	155	131	115	134	122	123	116	125	129	112	147	139	129
1973	155	154	170	200	190	190	179	131	125	122	127	129	156
1974	136	162	131	151	170	171	151	140	140	163	167	146	152
1975	169	169	166	177	169	204	178	157	159	159	174	189	173
1976	195	178	180	186	132	155	169	160	177	190	186	171	173
1977	237	253	263	219	182	150	169	160	166	180	212	175	197
1978	197	199	210	287	245	242	213	171	183	174	179	213	209
1979	259	287	249	213	204	204	188	194	182	191	209	196	215
1980	187	180	210	234	231	216	197	208	219	216	246	254	217
1981 <sup>2</sup>	280	328	346										

<sup>1</sup>All prices reported on f.o.b. basis.

<sup>2</sup>Preliminary.

**Table 10— Fresh Vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and grower and packer return per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1980 and 1981**

Commodity, month and retail unit	Retail price <sup>1</sup>	Marketing margin		Grower and packer return (Fob shipping point price) <sup>2,3</sup>	
		Absolute	Percentage of retail price	Absolute	Percentage of retail price
		Cents	Percent	Cents	Percent
Carrots (Pound)					
Jan. 1981	42.0	26.8	64	15.2	36
Dec. 1980	44.5	24.6	56	19.7	44
Jan. 1980	34.0	22.7	67	11.3	33
Celery (Pound)					
Jan. 1981	41.9	20.4	49	21.5	51
Dec. 1980	37.2	24.8	67	12.4	33
Jan. 1980	34.9	21.4	61	13.5	39
Cucumbers (Pound)					
Jan. 1981	60.5	39.5	65	21.0	35
Dec. 1980	52.4	26.8	51	25.6	49
Jan. 1980	51.5	27.0	52	24.5	48
Lettuce (Head)					
Jan. 1981	74.0	60.3	81	13.7	19
Dec. 1980	74.0	48.6	66	25.4	34
Jan. 1980	59.0	48.9	83	10.1	17
Onions, dry yellow (Pound)					
Jan. 1981	36.0	21.9	61	14.1	39
Dec. 1980	37.0	25.2	68	11.8	32
Jan. 1980	29.0	24.4	84	4.6	16
Potatoes, round white (Pound)					
Jan. 1981	28.8	22.2	77	6.6	23
Dec. 1980	23.8	17.7	74	6.1	26
Jan. 1980	15.8	11.3	72	4.5	28
Potatoes, Russet (Pound)					
Jan. 1981	31.8	19.1	60	12.7	40
Dec. 1980	31.8	20.6	65	11.2	35
Jan. 1980	23.8	17.8	75	6.0	25
Spinach (10-oz. Pkg)					
Jan. 1981	93.0	75.3	81	17.7	19
Dec. 1980	92.0	73.4	80	18.6	20
Jan. 1980	92.0	75.1	82	16.9	18
Sweet Potatoes, (Pound)					
Jan. 1981	44.0	20.1	46	23.9	54
Dec. 1980	39.0	16.8	43	22.2	57
Jan. 1980	32.0	17.6	55	14.4	45

<sup>1</sup>Retail price States of New York Department of Agriculture and Markets.

<sup>2</sup>For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers: Because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit.

<sup>3</sup>Production areas: Carrots-California, Celery-California, Cucumbers-Florida, Lettuce-California, Onions-New York, Potatoes, Round White-New York, Potatoes, Russet-Idaho, Spinach-Texas, Sweet Potatoes, North Carolina.

**Table 11—Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1979 and 1980 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1980 and 1981 by commodities, United States**

Commodity	Stocks							
	Pack		Date	Canners		Wholesale distributors <sup>1</sup>		
	1979	1980		1980	1981	Date	1980	1981
1,000 cases 24/303's								
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	66,281	58,153	MAR 1	27,456	29,547	JAN 1	3,816	4,476
Beets	12,973	11,321	JAN 1	11,365	11,250	JAN 1	1,029	1,003
Corn, sweet	60,022	50,574	MAR 1	28,984	20,963	JAN 1	4,117	4,480
Peas, green	36,492	30,056	MAR 1	13,858	14,267	JAN 1	2,874	3,003
Sauerkraut	12,980	11,280	MAR 1	7,981	7,150	JAN 1	589	642
Total	188,658	161,384	—	89,644	83,177	—	12,425	13,604
Tomato products <sup>2</sup>								
Tomatoes	52,896	53,096	JAN 1	38,171	33,547	JAN 1	2,977	2,934
Tomato Juice	31,517	28,623	JAN 1	19,870	16,533	JAN 1	1,965	2,109
Total	84,413	81,719	—	58,041	50,080	—	4,942	5,043
Other Commodities								
Asparagus	2,819	2,535	MAR 1	1,025	782	JAN 1	355	338
Beans, Lima	3,061	2,833	MAR 1	1,585	1,547	JAN 1	382	395
Carrots	6,928	5,084	JAN 1	4,082	3,941	JAN 1	671	647
Okra <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA		NA			NA	
Pickles <sup>1</sup>	75,367	68,018						
Pimientos	516	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pumpkin and squash	3,997	5,219	JAN 1	950	—	—	—	—
Potatoes	16,451	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sweetpotatoes	9,436		JAN 1	4,810	2,250	—	—	—
Spinach	8,121	6,314	MAR 1	3,120	NA	JAN 1	508	566
Other greens	NA	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—
Field peas	NA	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total comparable								
Other items	126,434	83,689	—	15,572	8,466	—	1,916	1,946
Grand total comparable items	399,505	326,792	—	163,257	141,723	—	19,238	20,593

<sup>1</sup>Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 112 and sauerkraut 54 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh). <sup>2</sup>Pack and stocks data not complete for catsup, paste, sauce and puree. <sup>3</sup>Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes. N.A.=not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Food Processors Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors, stock from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

**Table 12—Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance, January 1 to April 1**

Commodity	April 1 Stocks			January 1-April 1 net change		
	1979	1980	1981 <sup>1</sup>	1979	1980	1981 <sup>1</sup>
<i>Million pounds</i>						
Asparagus	2	8	5	-3	-3	-3
Beans, lima:						
Fordhook	16	29	30	-9	-11	-10
Baby	56	59	31	-24	-17	-20
Total	72	88	61	-33	-28	-30
Beans, snap:						
Regular	65	79	88	-43	-57	-48
French style	33	43	33	-24	-10	-21
Total	98	122	121	-67	-67	-69
Broccoli:						
Spears	32	39	35	-15	-11	-12
Chopped and cuts	34	47	43	-13	-7	-18
Total	66	86	78	-28	-18	-30
Brussels sprout	35	37	41	-15	-10	-14
Carrots:						
Diced	53	72	53	-40	-34	-31
Other	55	54	39	-16	-17	-14
Total	108	126	92	-56	-51	45
Cauliflower	62	58	47	-25	-24	-23
Corn, sweet:						
Cut	144	122	86	-98	-97	-105
On-cob	168	160	113	-72	60	-55
Total	312	282	199	-170	-37	-160
Mixed Vegetables	40	51	41	3	2	-4
Okra	27	22	16	-19	-12	-17
Onions:						
Rings	10	12	11	(3)	1	-1
Other frozen	13	15	14	-2	(3)	-2
Total	23	27	25	-2	1	-3
Peas, blackeyed	10	9	5	-4	-3	-4
Peas, green	112	151	121	-116	-130	-106
Peas and carrots	11	11	10	-2	-8	-1
Spinach	41	52	58	1	-7	4
Southern greens	21	26	25	-16	-2	-4
Other vegetables	151	162	148	-59	-33	-38
Total vegetables <sup>2</sup>	1,209	1,344	1093	-611	-431	-547
Potatoes:						
French fried	704	789	658	39	102	36
Other frozen	114	117	123	2	-7	22
Total frozen potatoes	818	906	781	41	95	58
Grand total <sup>2</sup>	2,027	2,250	1874	-570	-336	-489

<sup>1</sup>Preliminary. <sup>2</sup>May not add to total due to rounding. <sup>3</sup>Less than 1 million pounds.  
Cold storage, ESS, USDA, issued monthly.

**Table 13—Potatoes, winter and spring: Acreage, yield per acre and production, 1979, 1980 and 1981**

Seasonal group and State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	For Harvested			cwt.			1,000 cwt		
	1979	1980	1981 <sup>1</sup>	1979	1980	1981 <sup>1</sup>	1979	1980	1981 <sup>1</sup>
	<i>1,000 acres</i>			<i>cwt.</i>			<i>1,000 cwt</i>		
Winter, total	11.9	11.5	11.8	200	205	214	2,383	2,363	2,530
Spring:									
North Carolina:	13.7	13.0	13.3	165	140	165	2,261	1,820	2,195
Florida-Hastings	18.5	18.0	21.0	230	195	240	4,255	3,510	5,040
Other	.9	.8	1.0	180	170	185	162	136	185
Alabama	7.3	6.0	4.0	140	105	150	1,022	630	600
Louisiana	2.0	1.7	1.5	75	70	80	150	119	120
Texas	7.1	6.2	6.0	160	130	150	1,136	806	900
Arizona	6.2	4.4	5.2	210	290	280	1,302	1,276	1,456
California	28.0	22.5	26.4	395	390	400	11,060	8,775	10,560
Total	83.7	72.6	78.4	255	235	269	21,348	17,072	21,056

<sup>1</sup>Indicated.

Crop Production, ESS, USDA.

**Table 14—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, at terminal markets, and to growers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1980 and 1981**

Item	Week ended						
	1980			1981			
	Feb. 9	Mar. 8	Apr. 12	Jan. 10	Feb. 7	Mar. 7	Apr. 11
<i>Dollars</i>							
F.o.b. shipping points:							
New stock							
Florida, Dade County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A. Round							
Reds <sup>1</sup>	-	-	8.00	-	-	-	-
Old stock							
Colorado San Luis Valley							
Red McClures <sup>2</sup>	5.83	5.88	5.50	18.00	20.50	18.00	16.00
Idaho, Idaho Falls							
Russets <sup>3</sup>	9.00	8.05	7.70	18.30	20.35	18.50	17.95
Maine, Aroostook County							
U.S. No. 1 Size A. Mostly							
Katahdin <sup>1 4</sup>	2.56	2.30	1.90	8.98	10.12	9.46	10.96
New York, Upstate							
Round White <sup>1</sup>	5.14	3.86	-	11.12	12.22	12.14	-
Michigan							
Round Whites <sup>1</sup>	4.26	4.28	-	7.56	13.14	13.40	-
Tuesday nearest mid-month							
Item	1980			1981			
	Feb. 12	Mar. 4	Apr. 8	Jan. 13	Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14
<i>Dollars</i>							
Terminal markets:							
New York:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds <sup>1 5</sup>	-	12.50	-	-	-	-	26.00
Old stock							
Long Island, various Round							
Whites <sup>1 5</sup>	6.00	5.30	-	13.00	13.30	-	-
Maine, Katahdin <sup>1 4 5</sup>	6.00	5.30	5.30	13.00	13.50	13.00	14.30
Idaho, Russets <sup>1 5</sup>	14.00	16.00	13.70	29.00	28.00	27.00	26.00
Chicago:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds <sup>1 5 6</sup>	-	16.00	16.00	-	-	-	27.00
Old stock							
Idaho, Russets <sup>5 6</sup>	12.50	13.35	12.25	27.00	29.00	26.50	25.50
Minnesota-North Dakota,							
Round Reds <sup>5 6</sup>	8.00	7.75	7.75	13.75	19.00	17.25	18.75
1980							
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	
U.S. price received by growers	3.32	3.28	3.13	7.39	7.88	8.33	
U.S. average parity price	7.27	7.34	7.34	8.22	8.25	8.33	

<sup>1</sup>50-pound price doubled. <sup>2</sup>2-inch up, washed. <sup>3</sup>4-oz. minimum. <sup>4</sup>2-inch minimum. <sup>5</sup>U.S. No. 1, Size A. <sup>6</sup>Street sales. F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Terminal market prices are for Tuesday of each week as reported by Market News representatives of the Fruit and Vegetable Division of AMS. N.A. = Not Available.

**Table 15—Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Louisiana and California points and the terminal market prices at New York and Chicago for stocks of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods 1980 and 1981**

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended						
		1980			1981			
		Feb. 9	Mar. 8	Apr. 12	Jan. 10	Feb. 7	Mar. 7	Apr. 11
<i>Dollars</i>								
F.o.b. shipping points S.W. Louisiana points Porto Rico type U.S. No. 1, cured California, Porto Rico type, centennial	50 pound crate 40 pound carton	7.00 7.00	7.00 7.00	7.00 9.25	12.50 10.60	13.00 10.40	13.75 -	16.00 -
Tuesday nearest mid-month								
1980								
		Feb. 12	Mar. 4	Apr. 15	Jan. 13	Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14
<i>Dollars</i>								
Terminal markets New York: New Jersey, Orange Jersey type North Carolina, Jewels Chicago: North Carolina, cured	Bushel carton carton carton	7.00 7.50 8.50	7.00 7.50 8.25	7.00 7.50 8.29	- 12.50 14.00	- 14.50 14.75	- 16.75 17.00	- 17.50 18.25

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week as reported by Market News representatives of the Fruit and Vegetable Division of AMS.

**Table 16—Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, 1979, 1980 and indicated 1981**

Area	Acreage			
	1979	1980	Indicated 1981 <sup>1</sup>	1981 as Percent of 1980
1,000 acres				
Central Atlantic <sup>2</sup>	8.1	5.9	5.8	98
Lower Atlantic <sup>3</sup>	50.1	46.3	47.8	103
Central <sup>4</sup>	50.1	47.2	48.1	102
California	9.6	9.0	9.4	104
United States	117.9	108.4	111.1	102.5

<sup>1</sup>Indicated as of April 1.

<sup>2</sup>New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia.

<sup>3</sup>North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

<sup>4</sup>Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Source: Prospective Planting, ESS, USDA.

**Table 17—Average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dryfield peas, United States, indicated periods, 1979 and 1980**

Commodity	1980			1981	
	February 15	March 15	January 15	February 15	March 15
<i>Dollars</i>					
Sweetpotatoes	10.20	10.40	16.80	18.30	20.50
Beans, dry edible	25.00	24.80	27.50	28.30	29.70
Peas, dry field	11.00	11.60	11.00	11.80	10.30

Agricultural Prices, ESS, USDA.

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